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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of performing a Fast Fourier Transform in a

- 2 data processing apparatus having a data cache smaller than the
- 3 data set of the Fast Fourier Transform, comprising the steps
- 4 of:
- 5 performing a first stage radix-R butterfly computations
- 6 on all the input data producing R independent intermediate
- 7 data sets;
- 8 successively performing second and all subsequent stage
- 9 butterfly computations on each independent intermediate data
- 10 set in turn producing corresponding output data.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein:
- 2 each of said R independent intermediate data sets fits
- 3 within the data cache.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein:
- 2 said radix-R is radix-2.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein:
- 2 said radix-R is radix-4.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein:
- 2 said step of performing a first stage radix-R butterfly
- 3 computations on all the input data includes
- 4 dividing said input data into R continuous sets, and
- 5 disposing said input data into memory, each R
- 6 continuous set in continuous memory locations with a

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space in memory locations equal to the size of a cache line between adjacent sets.

- 1 6. The method of performing an N-point radix-R Fast 2 Fourier Transform in a data processing apparatus having a data 3 cache comprising the steps of:
- comparing the data set of input data and twiddle factors
 with the size of the data cache;
- if said data set is smaller than said data cache, performing said Fast Fourier Transform in $\log_R N$ stages on all the data set in one pass; and
- 9 if said data set is larger than said data cache but 10 smaller than R times the data cache
- performing a first stage radix-R butterfly
 computations on all the input data producing R
 independent intermediate data sets in a first pass;
- successively performing second and all subsequent stage butterfly computations on each independent intermediate data set in turn producing corresponding output data in second passes.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein:
- 2 said Fast Fourier Transform uses complex input data and
- 3 complex twiddle factors of M bytes each; and
- 4 said step of comparing the data set with the size of the
- 5 data cache compares the data cache size to 4 $N \times M$ bytes.
- 1 8. The method of claim 6, wherein:
- 2 said radix-R is radix-2.

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1 9. The method of claim 6, wherein:

2 said radix-R is radix-4.

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1 10. The method of claim 6, wherein:

said step of performing a first stage radix-R butterfly
computations on all the input data includes

dividing said input data into R continuous sets, and disposing said input data into memory, each R continuous set in continuous memory locations with a space in memory locations equal to the size of a cache line between adjacent sets.

11. The method of claim 6, further comprising:

if said data set is larger than R times the data cache performing I initial stages of radix-R butterfly computations on all the input data producing R independent intermediate data sets, where I is the next integer greater than $\log_R(D/C)$, D is the size of the data

set and C is the size of the cache; and

successively performing all subsequent stage butterfly computations on each independent intermediate data set in turn producing corresponding output data in second passes.